

THE



## STANDARD

**In This Issue:**

- A Message from LTC Carson
- Co Commanders' Remarks
- Community Notes
- JMAC
- Pastor's Pen

**FROM THE COMMANDER**

The OCS battalion continues to do great work for the Army! I am amazed at the daily performance of our cadre as they continue to educate, train and commission officers at an ever increasing rate. During FY 2006 OCS commissioned 1450 Second Lieutenants – the highest number of commissions in recent history. This type of throughput would not be possible without the extraordinary efforts of each and every one of our assigned military and civilian personnel. You are an exceptional team and I am proud of all of you.

These past few months have seen the departure of some of OCS's cornerstone players. We watched the retirement of HHC 1SG Bryan Jones and Operations Sergeant SFC Johnny Pippen. Both of these key non-commissioned officers will be sorely missed. We also saw the departure of the BN S3, MAJ Ray Ferguson.

*Continued, Page 2***“STANDARDS! NO COMPROMISE!!”**

## “STANDARDS!

...From the Commander, continued.

Ray departed for a one year tour in IRAQ where I am sure he will excel. Ray was replaced by MAJ Alvin Brown and his wife Rachelle. The battalion also received several other new company level training officers and training NCOs. Most of these new personnel are in position as I write this letter and all are doing extremely well. We were able to welcome most of you at our fall Hail & Farewell at Uchee Creek.

The Army Officer Candidates once again secured the "BOMB" at the recent Fall 2006 Joint Military Athletic Competition (JMAC) held at Maxwell Air Force Base. Our Candidates swept victoriously through every single event, soundly defeating the US Air Force and US Navy competitors! Our next opportunity for competition will be at the Spring 2007 JMAC at Pensacola NAS. Congratulations to all that contributed to this victory.

The BN will be afforded the opportunity to take a well deserved break during the upcoming holiday Exodus 16 DEC through 2 January. All formal training is suspended during this time. It is my intent that we maximize leave opportunities and I hope that each and every one of you takes this time to relax and enjoy your families and friends.

Again, I am honored and blessed to be your commander. Linda and I wish you all our best as we move into this holiday period and hope that you all stay safe!

STANDARDS, NO COMPROMISE!

*LTC Curtis J. Carson*

Battalion Commander



*Right: the OCS JMAC team and coaches. Other JMAC pictures are featured throughout this issue.*

# NO COMPROMISE!!”

## ALPHA COMPANY

Alpha Company has been busy these last few months. We graduated 156 new Lieutenants on 12 October. The highlight of the event was having General (Ret.) Wesley Clark as guest speaker. A Co will take the next six weeks for a much-deserved cycle break; then begin preparing for class pick-up on 28 November.

During this time we said goodbye to CPT Holst, who will be attending the FBI Academy; CPT Greek, who took a company command in 2/11<sup>th</sup> IOBC; and SFC Holdaway, who is attending OCS in E Co and will be an excellent officer after he graduates. SFC Tilson also left us for a tour in Afghanistan with a Mobile Training Team.

We would like to welcome CPT Hodge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon Trainer Officer; SFC Adams, 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon Trainer NCO; CPT Cornelius, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon Trainer officer, and 2LT Taggart, Company XO.

We will continue the tradition of producing Army Officers and taking care of our cadre and family members.

*CPT Douglas Smith*

A Co Commander



## BRAVO COMPANY

Bravo Company started training 144 candidates for class 10-06 on September 5<sup>th</sup> and is in the 9<sup>th</sup> week of training. The candidates currently are participating in their capstone, FLX II, in which they are evaluated on their leadership ability during squad and platoon level exercises. We now have 132 candidates training hard and looking forward to graduation on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Prior to graduation, CPT McCoy will be reporting to Ranger School. Also, 2LT Casias will report back to his Officer Basic Course to complete his initial schooling. The entire Bravo Company team wishes both of them luck in their schools.

After graduation, Bravo Company's cadre is slated for Christmas break, and then will begin preparations for class 03-07 in late January. Currently all Bravo Company cadre members are stabilized for the start of class 03-07, but SFC Talbot has deployment orders for Kuwait in March. The Bravo Company team wishes him good luck with his future training and deployment.

Standards No Compromise!

*CPT Charles Price*

B Co Commander





## **“STANDARDS!”**

### **CHARLIE COMPANY**

As we bring OCS Class 09-06 to a close I would like to highlight a few things. First and foremost, the candidates, what they have endured to this point, and where they are undoubtedly going. Second, what the family members have endured in support of their loved ones. Lastly, key events that can bring the families and loved ones together toward the end of the course.

It has been a pleasure and honor to command a company that trains civilians and prior soldiers to become lieutenants. It has been relatively easy with the quality of candidates in the company. Regardless of their background, they have all learned, grown, and displayed the attributes that will make them successful leaders. They have done so through three field exercises and numerous garrison activities. I am confident in their ability to lead the sons and daughters of our nation, and would be honored to serve with them in the future.

While service members are away at schools, training, and deployments, life is difficult for family members. In the military, family members at home have the difficult task of raising the family and keeping the household in order. Your sacrifice is not unnoticed or unappreciated. The candidates may not show their appreciation in the best ways, but I am certain they are all appreciative and thankful for the support they receive from their loved ones. Thank you.

Lastly, during the final weeks of the course there are opportunities for loved ones to attend social events with their 'soon-to-be lieutenants'. For Class 09-06, graduation will occur on 22 November at 1300 in Marshall Auditorium (Building 4). Beforehand, the Oath of Office will be conducted at 1100 hrs in the Company Area (Building 2756B). The Graduation Formal will be held at 1730 hrs on 21 November at the Iron Works (Columbus Trade Center). We encourage family members to attend these events and to take pictures at the events to capture some of the most significant events in the career of an officer.

Thank you for the support of OCS, the candidates and the Nation.

**CPT Matthew T. Morgan**  
Charlie Company Commander



### **DELTA COMPANY**

Delta Company graduated Class 07-06 on 07 September 2006 with 111 Lieutenants. On their heels, on 10 October 2006, we picked up Class 501-07 with 160 officer candidates to get ready for the force.

As of this writing, the candidates have completed the Obstacle Course, Combat Water Survival Testing, and the Leaders' Reaction Course, as well as two 5 mile foot marches and a graded 3 mile release run. This week the candidates are in the field for the first of three field exercises conducting Land Navigation. Delta Company also supported OCS's team at the Joint Military Athletic Competition at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama on 04 November. In the next few weeks the candidates will complete a 4 mile release run, a 7 mile foot march, FLX I (team and squad drill), and FLX II (squad and platoon drill). The candidates will then have a couple of weeks to recover during the holidays, only to return to complete the last three weeks of training. Graduation is 25 January 2007.

We have said farewell to 1SG Argo, now the Battalion S3 NCOIC. He will be sorely missed by the Delta Company cadre and candidates as he moves on. We have bid farewell to 1LT Long, the company XO, as well. She will pick up the reins as the Assistant S3 at OCS. Shortly we will say farewell to CPT Kinney, last cycle's Senior Trainer. Her candor brought a sense of direction to the company that was unmatched!

As we bid these outstanding Soldiers farewell, we welcome others. CPT Brown and CPT Ellison arrived at the company just before we picked up the current class and jumped in with both feet. We have an addition to the Delta Company family as well. CPT McCullough and his wife Sue gave birth to Emily midway through the last class, and she is the spitting image of her father!

As you can tell, OCS does not, nor will it, slow down. All of our cadre spend hard and productive hours ensuring each of the candidates receives as much and as thorough training as they can to prepare them for the force.

**STANDARDS!**

**CPT Tim Rose**  
Delta Company Commander

DELTA COMPANY



DAWG POUND

# NO COMPROMISE!!”

## ECHO COMPANY

Echo Company started Class 11-06 on 25 September with 158 candidates. The company has been extremely busy. The class has completed some classroom instruction, warrior basic combat task training, and most recently battle drill training during FLX I. The candidates are working together and taking form as a class. The class also has several candidates who trained to retain the 'Bomb' at JMAC on 4 November in Montgomery, Alabama. The class is maintaining their motivation and looking forward to the upcoming holiday season. Graduation is 18 January 2007.

In December we will bid farewell to our supply sergeant, SSG Marcie Montgomery. SSG Montgomery will PCS to Ft. Bragg with her four children: Victoria, Anthony, Aspen, and Justin. She has really performed her duties well and aided the company in accomplishing our daily activities and overall mission. Her long hours and dedication will be missed. We wish SSG Montgomery and her family well.

Echo Company would also like to welcome its newest member to the company team, CPT Vernon Robinson. CPT Robinson arrived in OCT and is assigned as the 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon Trainer. He comes to the Battalion from Ft. Lewis and most recently the Infantry Captain's Career Course. CPT Robinson brings a wealth of knowledge and experience that will truly benefit the company and the officer candidates he will train.

We also had a cadre member welcome a new arrival. 2LT Vincent Cerchione and Amber welcomed the arrival of their daughter Giuliana Mackenzie on the morning of 20 October. Giuliana and the family are doing well. Congratulations!

I am continually impressed with the cadre in this company. Your professionalism and dedication to supplying the Army with leaders of character is very much appreciated. I would like to thank you and your families for your long hours and commitment to supporting this company and the battalion. You make my job easy and we are privileged to keep each others' company. I hope that you and your families enjoy and have a wonderful holiday season.

**CPT John Craft**

Echo Company Commander



## HHC

Greetings to everyone from HHC!

Your hard work and dedication the past couple of months are truly appreciated and have not gone unnoticed. Keep up the good work as we only have a couple of weeks until the Thanksgiving weekend and the Christmas Exodus so that you will be able to take that much needed break.

We want to say a last farewell to 1SG Jones and SFC Phippen who walked across the retirement stage on 17 OCT. Congratulate and wish them luck as they transition into civilian life. Also, we have learned that SFC George has orders for Afghanistan, and will be leaving us in December. We wish him well on his deployment and look forward to his safe return.

We also want to farewell 1LT Long in the S3 shop who will also be leaving us in December and transitioning to the civilian life as well. SPC Hawtin will be leaving us on 17 NOV. He will be joining the Florida highway patrol next year and I am sure he will be a great asset to them as he has been for HHC, especially during PT, these past six months.

Mrs. Gray from the S1 shop will also be leaving us in December so that she can join up with her husband in South Carolina. SSG(P) Peters will be leaving us as well. She is slated to go through the OCS course in January. Good luck to everyone!

With a bunch of farewells, we also have some new additions to our HHC team. MSG Argo, from Delta company, joins us in the S3 shop as our S3 NCOIC. We also want to extend a warm welcome to Ms. Pollock who joins our S4 team. We look forward to working with you two.

Our next R-Day is not until 28 NOV with Alpha Company. We have approximately 40 anxious candidates that are counting down the days. We wish them all good luck as they reach that next hurdle of reaching their ultimate goal of being a 2LT in the United States Army. I hope that everyone has made or is making plans for a safe and happy holiday Season!



HHC HOOLIGANS

**CPT Angela Lamborn**

HHC Commander



# "STANDARDS!"



## SIGHTINGS



Candidates prepare for a big night out: Land Navigation



A fond farewell—and award—to SFC Pippen



CPT Lamborn welcomes SFC Nicholas and his family to 3-11



MAJ Danner sends MAJ Ferguson out with an award



The OCS JMAC Volleyball Team answers the call for fire



The OCS JMAC Stretcher Carry Team surges to victory, cheered by CPT Sztalkoper (far left and 18" off the ground)



# NO COMPROMISE!!”

## COMMUNITY

The **Community Activities Resource Exchange (CARE)** Newsletter 2006 is published monthly in the interest of the Fort Benning Community, Volunteers, and Family Readiness Groups. It contains useful information and points of contact for community, soldier, and family resources, forms of assistance for Soldiers and families, community activities, and educational opportunities—to name just a few.

If you have a submission for the CARE notes, POC is:  
Barbara Singleton – Contractor, AFAP/AFTB Office, 545-5377, Building 2626, Soldier Plaza, Fort Benning.

Please take advantage of this great resource!

### OCS CADRE SPOUSES COFFEE GROUP

**If you are interested in being a member of the OCS Coffee Group that meets once a quarter, please send your personal e-mail address to Linda Carson at [armyrats@yahoo.com](mailto:armyrats@yahoo.com). Coffee announcements and invitations are sent out via e-mail.**



The OCS JMAC Tug-of-War Team



OCS completes the JMAC Super APFT Relay...to Standard

## **"THE BOMB" TO STAY PUT**

Army OCS once again retained possession of "The Bomb" by sweeping every event at the Fall 2006 Joint Military Athletic Competition (JMAC), beating Navy OCS and Air Force OTS teams. Congratulations to our candidate teams and cadre coaches who made this victory possible.

Our thanks also to the Air Force OTS Program for hosting the event at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery Alabama.

We will return to the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL for the Spring 2007 competition, hosted by Navy OCS.



**"The Bomb" perched on its competition stand. It has since been returned to its rightful place with the OCS command group, and it retains its Army OCS paint scheme. Asked about the possibility of a Navy or Air Force paint job, "The Bomb" had no comment.**

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## **PASTOR'S PEN**

It seems like I haven't been here all that long, and yet I've just finished editing the first issue of my *second* volume of the *OCS Standard*. Time flies when you are having fun, and I have had more than my share this year, the occasional bizarre counseling session notwithstanding. I am absolutely amazed this year is drawing to a close, and soon we all will be off on the holiday Exodus for a well-deserved break from routine. Regarding Exodus, I have a few words of advice.

First, know generally what your Soldiers are up to. Know especially who will be alone. While the holidays are fun for most of us, they can be very isolating for people separated from friends and family. This makes checking up on our comrades important. We all need to know that we are cared for, so checking on our people should be done as a matter of course, but especially now. That said, this time of year I often hear concerned Soldiers note the "statistic" that most suicides happen in December. This is not true! Still, let's remember to check on our Soldiers.

Second: relax. Between religious observances, the secular shopping/party/presents madness, and family gatherings, the holidays can be stressful. I will certainly have loads of fun with my family, but we are hardly a Hallmark Hall of Fame crew (we're more the *National Lampoons Christmas Vacation* type), so stress will be in the mix somewhere! Remember that Exodus is a time to have fun, relax, and sleep in. It is not the time to over-plan gatherings only to stress out when the inevitable glitch or goof rears its head.

Third: be safe. I want to see everyone back and in one piece (and one peace, for that matter) come January. If drinking is on your holiday to-do list, DON'T DRIVE!

Finally: have a fun and fulfilling break!

**CH Eric Thompson**

BN Chaplain



*If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the **OCS Standard**, contact CH Thompson at 545-0375, or [john.e.thompson2@benning.army.mil](mailto:john.e.thompson2@benning.army.mil).*